

Great Brittain's warning piece,

OR

ENGLANDS TERROR:

BEING

An Exhortation to all people to
avoid the threatnings of Gods
Judgements, likely to come on us
for our sins, by a speedy Re-
pentance, and turning to
God.

*For the wrath of God is revealed from Heaven
against all ungodliness, and unrighteousness
of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness:
Romans 1. 18.*

*Lo, thus saith God, I will execute Judgements
upon you, and my fury shall go out like a fire,
that none can quench it, because of the evill of
your doings: and I will punish you according
to your actions, for I will kindle a fire in the
midst of your forrest, and it shall devour all
things round about you, Jeremiah 21. 13, 14.*

By William Knowles B. of P. 1662.

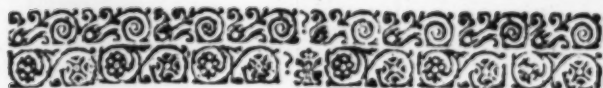
*London, Printed for F. Coles at the sign of the
Lamb in the Old-baily, 1662.*

Cry a loud, lift up thy voice like a Trum-
pet, and shew my people their trans-
gressions, Isa. 58. 1.



By William Knowles B. of P. 1662.

francis mafferson his book



Hear the word of the Lord ye children of *Israel*, for the Lord hath a controversie with the inhabitants of our Land, because there is no truth, no mercy, no knowledge of God in the Land, but swearing, and lying, and killing, and stealing, and committing idolatrous abomination, and blood toucheth blood, therefore shall the Land mourn, and every one that dwelleth therein shall languish with the beasts of the field, and the fowls of the air, and fishes of the sea shall be taken from the land, Hosea 4. 12.

Christian friends, out of this Text of Scripture several Doctrines may be laid forth to this sinful Nation of England, and to the inhabitants thereof, the Lord is at a controversie with you for your abominable sins committed in the Land, not by a man alone, but by the general inhabitants of the whole Earth, you know and see daily how the poor people of this Kingdom hath been afflicted by grievous diseases; there is not one town in the whole nation hath been free from the like affliction.

O the heavy wrath of God is revealed from
 Hea^uen, and with fury is poured upon un-
 godly men ! Repent and return from your
 evil way, and make your ways and doings
 good ; for except we repent, we shall all
 likewise perish. **O** let us learne to bear
 the afflictions of God with patience ; for
 know you whom God afflicteth, he loveth :
 for shall a Father never correct a Son with
 no affliction, but let him have his own will,
 he would not stand in awe of his threaten-
 ings, neither would he fear him at all : what
 then there is no other way for that man to
 b^uidle his son but by affliction, bringing him
 into some strait ; as want, poverty, sickness,
 or imprisonment, or in any other tribula-
 tion ?

No, thus God deals with us chiefest by
 those whom he loveth : for when God finds
 us running into any abominable transgres-
 sion, He afflicts first, our conscience ; 2ly.
 Our bodies ; And 3ly. our souls, which
 is an everlasting affliction, and terriblest of
 all. But first when our Conscience is af-
 flicted, it tells us inwardly of all our filthy
 and evil abominations committed, both in
 thought, words and actions : what then
 by that affliction we should take warning
 and prevent the future danger, but most of
 all of us both in a wretched manner, so
 flight

slight our conscience for thinking of it that
 we take no heed at all till destruction comes
 and takes us away, running still into all
 manner of evil, and offending of our Lord
 God; nay we run into all dangers of sin-
 ning as can be nominated. **B**ut think of
 the infinite mercy and goodness of God, who
 desireth not the death of a sinner, but had ra-
 ther he would repent and live. **H**ow
 kindly deals the Lord with us, he lays upon
 us some affliction to win us to trust in him,
 some he punisheth more then other some,
 according as they are able to bear, and ac-
 cording to his sweet and blessed will, some
 he strikes sick, some lame, some dead in the
 twinkling of an eye; none of us all knows
 at this present time whether we shall live
 till to morrow: for severall causes God
 deals to people severall properties; for some
 God takes out of the world because the
 world is not worthy of them: others again
 he takes out of the world because they are
 not worthy of the world. **N**o thus God
 deals with the world, **A**nd the changes and
 chances of the world are such we are to day
 merry, to morrow sad, to day rich, to mor-
 row poor, to day well, to morrow sick, to
 day alive, to morrow dead; **N**ay, we are
 none of us certaine to live one hour longer,
 had we not need to have a great care to pro-

vide and make ready our selves for God at what time soever he pleaseth to take us out of this world ; for after death comes judgement to give to every man according to the fruits of his doings.

So now let us consider the great affliction at this present time amongst us, and how we ought to call upon God in time of any trouble, as sicknesse, famine, fire, water, or any eminent danger, with the words of holy David, Psal. 25. 16, 18. verses, turn unto us o God and have mercy upon us, for we are desolute and afflicted, the trouble of our hearts are enlarged : O bring us then out of our distresses, look upon our afflictions and our pains, and forgive us our sins. Dearly beloved Friends, have patience in afflictions, and murmur at nothing, for verily I say unto you, I do rather believe that it is our murmuring against the handy works of God, which is the chiefest cause of our dearness of Grain, and great Diseases. O how doth the rich Misers of the world haunt themselves of their vain glory, thinking Grain never dear enough, nor uses no conscience in dealing falsely with the poor. O your wretched dealing with the poor is the cause of Gods most wrathful and just indignation thus fiercely laid upon us ! O how dare you presume to

sin

sin thus wilfully to the face of God, O it is
 the great mercy of the Lord we are not ut-
 terly destroyed: for lo the sword has been a
 long time amongst us, and hath slain thou-
 sands out of the world, and at this present
 sickness abounds and grain is at an exceeding
 great rate, which foreshowes a famine in the
 Land, except a speedy and earnest repen-
 tance; if then these will not convince, nay,
 if these threatenings of the Lord will not re-
 call you from your sins and turn you to the
 Lord by prayer, I do hold you to be absolute
 a reprobate, and on us the Lord will bring
 utter destruction; for the Lord will not
 be mocked at the hands of sinners; for saith
 God, I will shew mercy unto thousands of
 them that loves me, but them that hates me
 shall utterly be destroyed; I am pittfull a-
 bundantly to sinners, but such as provoke
 my passion shall not go unpunished: what
 mad men of the world would provoke the
 Lord God to anger on this manner, the co-
 vetous man by his covetousness provoketh
 God sorely in making a God of his riches;
 the man by pride exalts himself in braverie;
 the adulterer, swearer, sabbath-breaker, liers,
 murderers, stealers, and all other extor-
 tional sinners, that the Lord is even weary
 of such a perverse Generation. O friends slow
 to your selves in righteousness, reap in

mercy, break up your fallow grounds, for it is time to seek the Lord till he comes and raise up righteousness upon the earth; yea you have plowed wickedness, you have reaped iniquity, and have eaten the fruit of lies, because thou didst trust in thine one way and mighty men, Hosea 10.9. Seek God my friends and repent of your abominable transgressions, and walk not in ways that are evil, but say with holy Job, though terrors are turned upon us, and the day of affliction have taken hold on us, and our bones are pierced in the night, nor our sinews take no rest by the great force of our disease, Job 30. 15, 16. but shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil? our God is the God of health and sickness, who can by his Almighty appointment throw us to day into great sickness, and in his good time raise us to our former health, give God thanks, for he hath loosed, and he will bind us up. Oh our sin of murmuring against the handy-works of God, both so abundant, disliking of Gods handy-works and the fruits of the earth before they came upon our grounds, saying, our crops are small, making themselves discontented at Gods love to the world; but the sweet counsellor of the Apostle Paul, saith, at all times be content: this discontent dear friends and mur-
muring

murmuring with God is the chiefest cause of this
 our great affliction. Dear Christian friends do
 you think that God is beholding to us for any
 thing, is not all things in his power to send
 plenty or scarcity according to his blessed will ;
 neither doth God care for the murmuring of
 men, but will reward you according to the
 works of your doings, & will utterly consume
 all things from of the land, Zep. 1. 2. I will con-
 sume both man and beasts ; So thus will the
 Lord deal with us for our iniquities, therefore
 O Nations gather your selves together before
 the decree that the Lord brings forth, before
 the day passeth as chaffe, before the fierce an-
 ger of the Lord comes upon you, seek you the
 Lord all the meek of the earth which have
 wrought his Judgement, seek meeknesse and
 righteousness, it may be you may be hid in the
 day of the Lords wrath : for as I live saith the
 Lord thou shalt be as Sodome and Gomorrah,
 a perpetual desolation shall befall you, and the
 residue of my people shall spill them, Zep. 2. 10.
 O England, England look to it, this is thy re-
 ward for thy murmuring against the Lord of
 Host, because you have reproached and magni-
 fied your selves against the people of God, but
 we say, shall we give our first born for our
 transgression, the fruits of our body for the sins
 of our soul ; O man the Lord hath shewed us
 what is good, and what he doth require of us,
 but

but to do justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with our God, Micah 6.8. this is all the sacrifices the Lord desireth of the children of men, it is but a very small matter to do this, but with wicked and carnall men it is a hard and strait matter, but the righteous will perform it with ease & joy unspeakable & full of glory; ye the righteous will glory in the works of the Lord. Friends I intreat you not to glory in that which is evil, but in that which is good; for if you do not speedily repent you will utterly be consumed, ye utter ruine & utter destruction will suddenly come upon you; therefore to prevent & future glorifie God at your going out & coming in, at your lying down, and rising up, for thus saith the Lord, I will be glorified in the midst of thee for thou shalt know that I am the Lord for I will execute judgment against thee, and I will send pestilence and bloud in your streets, and the sword shall be on every side to consume thee. And O London, thou proud City remember Jerusalem, and forget not God; for thou art threatned by Gods most heavy wrath as was Tirus, for behold, the Lord is against thee for thy abominable pride, thy haughtiness, thy fullness: I need not look back on him who is the sender of these good things, but most willingly dost thou offend thy Maker; thou a trade in buying and selling on the Sabbath day, O abominable transgressors, more evil then the Devil; for he both believeth and trembles: neither

ther will you fear nor dread, your Maker and Almighty God. O helwail your wretched condition, and I beseech you with earnest desires to lay aside these vices, as gaming, or selling, buying, exalting your selves in bravery, dishonouring of God on this manner as you do, God threatens you for this corrupted vice to shewer down his wrath and vengeance upon you, the Sabbath-breakers of his glory, it is Gods market day; rob not God of his glory, and hinder not any coming to buy his Merchandize which is far more better then rubies, and you may have it without many and without price, a regard also that hinders any man from coming to Christ; what, St. Paul saith, Thou child of the Diuell, wilt thou not come in thy self but hinder others also: But mark the threatnings of the Lord to thee, O London, thy daughters shall be slain with the edge of the sword, and I will set Engines of war against thy Towers, and will break down thy walls for thy Idolatry and will slay thy people, and bring thy garisons into the ground and I will spoil thy riches and make a prey of thy merchandize, & will throw down thy famous buildings and pleasant houses with the stones and the timber; yea all thy famous works will I bring to nought, thy great riches, thy abundance of bread, thy brightness and multitude of wealth that is in thee hath brought vengeance upon thee yea in & midst

midst of thee for thy haughtiness I will destroy
 thee, for thy heart hath lifted up it self with
 pride, yea and hatest the ways of God, by rea-
 son of whom the way of truth is defiled; yea a
 traffick that is used in this city hath defiled you,
 your abominable traffick on the sabbath day
 thy whozing and ranging after other vices, by
 opinions, seditious heresies, and by tenthousand
 other vices which doth confound us; nay saith
 the Lord, I will bring a fire in the midst of thee
 which shall devour thee, and quite consume
 thee from the earth, in the sight of all behol-
 ders, and those that knew thee amongst the peo-
 ple shall be astonished at thee, and thou never
 shalt be more, Eze. 18. 18. ¶ England and Lon-
 don in chiefeest, gather your selves together, for
 it is time to seek the Lord; for great need have
 we at this present time, for you see that sick-
 nesses, as plagues and pestilence are like to en-
 sue except a timely and speedy repentance, and
 the Lord of his infinite mercy defend us from
 a cruel famine which is much to be feared by
 our scarcity of grain, and unseasonable weather.
 ¶ mighty God amend it! ¶ how shall we pre-
 vent this eminent danger; whither shall we
 fly for safety, but to the living God, who is a
 rewarder of the just, and a sore punisher of the
 unjust; repent therefore I beseech you, and
 gather your selves together before the viceroy
 comes forth, before the day of the Lords fierce
 anger

anger comes upon you : O seek the Lord all
 the meek of the earth, seek to live righteously,
 so your sins may be hid in the day of the Lords
 wrath, Zeph. 2. 23. O let his Majesty the King
 look to all vices in his land, and to seek daily to
 punish the wickedness of sin, and to establish
 righteousness through his Realm, it will both
 strengthen power, and establish his throne in
 peace, to the blessed happiness of this his King-
 dome. O let no man in power and authority
 be so wrong, but with all power to stand up in a
 righteous cause; ye let all the land rich and poor
 give praise to God with tears & expression that
 cannot be uttered. O but let me look back up-
 on the rich man; & consider his miserable estate,
 I mean such a rich man that rejecteth the poor;
 O but alas I bewail his unhappy condition, for
 I say unto you the estate of that rich man that
 despiseth the poor is most damnable, a compa-
 nion for the Devil, and cursed upon earth; and
 it is easier for a Camell to go through the
 eye of a needle, and a damned soul shall sooner
 be eased of the torment of hell, then such a rich
 man to gain the glory of heaven; as for exam-
 ple, we have Dives in the gospel, that rich glut-
 ton, who despised poor Lazarus: nay he had no
 charity to relieve him with the crumbs that fell
 from his table, but rather rebiled him with
 scourges, and I fear we have too too many of
 these cater-pillers, rich men & despise their poor
 brethren;

brethren; yea they would let a poore man starve
 and die in the streets, ere they would relieve
 him; but the reward of those are to be pun-
 shed in the everlasting fire of hell, where the
 ugly and filthy damnable carcasse shall be tor-
 mented both body and soul; yea I say he
 wretched carcasse will never die, nor the fire
 of hell will never be quenched. O Friends, what
 will it then profit a man to gain the whole
 world to lose his own soul. O be charitable rich
 men, and grind not so the poore for gain; for I
 must tell you 'twill profit you better to lay
 up one spark of grace in, by meriting gifts to
 the poore in great necessity, then it is to lay
 up the wealth of the whole world for
 the wealth and the glory of the world is as
 dust and filthy dung in comparison to the
 wealth of Heaven: you had better be a door-keeper
 of the House of God, then to sit on the throne
 of an earthly tabernacle. O rich men, regard I beseech
 you what here is spoken, & look upon you
 poore brethren that cryeth for food in the streets
 and remember the words of Christ; Luke 14
 20. The poore they are alwaies with you, but
 I am not alwaies with you; but neverthelesse
 as much as you doe to the meanest of these poore
 people, I take it in as good part as you did
 unto me, and your reward shall be great in
 the Kingdom of Heaven. Rich and poore I
 treat you to serve the living Lord; for alas
 we

we have surely transgressed his Lawes and
 Commandments : For a long season we have
 followed the frowardness of our own hearts,
 and the wates of God we have not known. O
 perverſe generation who have wallowed in fin
 and followed pleasures a long time. O let us
 be in ſackcloth and aſhes, and bewail our ſad
 conditions ; for ſickneſs overtakes us, and ſa-
 dominiſts deſtroys us, the ſword has aſrighted us,
 and our trading decays, yea all comforts for-
 ſakes us, and all comes through our abomina-
 ble ſlthineſs, and our woful ſinning againſt
 the Almighty : But woe, woe, ſaith the Lord,
 Jer. 3. 14. to you rich men : O it ſhall be evil
 for you, becauſe you have eaten up the vine-
 yard, and the ſpoil of the poor is in their houſes.
 O what mean you ſaith God, to grind the faces
 of the poor, and to beat my people to pieces
 through your covetouſneſs, and through pride :
 be you do witneſs and declare as did Sodom ; O
 but woe to your poor ſouls, for you have re-
 ſtarded evil to your ſelves : O how haughty
 are your daughters who walk with ſtretched
 out necks, wantonneſſe, walking and mincing
 as they go, and making a tinkling with their
 ſet : Therefore ſaith the Lord, will I ſmite
 this land with affliction of great diſeaſes, and
 will take away the bravery of their tinkling
 ornaments, and it ſhall come to paſs that in-
 ſtead of your ſweet ſmells you ſhall have ſtinks,
 in-

instead of brave attire, most filthy rags, and instead of pleasures, everlasting pain, & they who spent their time in worldly vanities upon earth which had end, shall lie in hellish torment in the next world without end. O friends, this is the portion of our famous City & the proud wantons therein, yea and by pride shall the great ones fall by the edge of the sword, and the land shall mourn and be desolate, Isa. 4. 17, 26. O Christian brethren, I beseech you to return unto God with your whole hearts before utter destruction comes upon you. Ah how doth the Lord give us now warning by his afflictions laid upon us, to turn and speedily repent of our sins, and he will have mercy; for we may trust and rest upon our sweet Saviour for mercy if we truly repent; for he is still as gracious a God as he was to our Forefathers. O remember the loving kindness of God unto Nineveh, who said, within forty days shall Nineveh be destroyed; but by the prayers and repentance of the Ninevites it still was preserved; yea, their obedience and ardent desires of the whole land, yea the incense of their prayer ascended up before God and he repented of the evil and did it not. Ah, there is nothing better and more acceptable to the Lord, then prayers and supplications are; yea, I say it is good both to prevent the wrath of God, and to bring his blessings upon the land: Ah, but this pride, this

baroness

hardnesse of heart, this cruelty of these rich men is such to the poore of this Kingdom, which makes the Lordes fierce anger thus wrathfully afflict us : Ah how doth the Lord try the hearts of these Cormoragels, who would, if God would give them leave, even grind the faces of the poore to pieces : Ah, but woe, woe to you rich men for the misery that shall come upon you ; Ah your riches are corrupted, your garments shall be moth eaten, and the rust of your gold and silver shall one day witnesse against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire, you have heaped up treasures to the last day, you have kept back by fraud and deceit the wages of your hired labourers, and the cries of the poore have entered into the ears of the Lord, you have lived in pleasures upon earth, and have been wanton and turned your selves from the poore ; yea, you have condemned the just, & have slain the poore from off the land, James 5. 3. Rich men are you not ashamed of these reproves, you covetous worldlings return I say and be converted : Ah, you are not ashamed to hoord up your grain, and not let the poore to be relieved ; nay, you will see them die and starve at your doors before you will part from a morsell of bread ; but take heed you worldlings, that God doth not one day let you stand knocking at the door of grace, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us, who shall answer you, depart you cursed into

everlasting fire, prepared for the Devil and his Angels. O Brethren, remember this in time, and lay aside these sins that so easily belets thee; for certainly these sins are the cause of our present calamities; for see you not how the fields are wasted: the land mourneth for our Corn, it withers and languishes away: be you ashamed you husbandmen for your grievous sinned of the poor; are not your hearts ready to melt within you for your sore transgression & great cause have we to howl and lament, for the wheat and the barley of the fields are like to perish, for the vine is dried up the fig tree languisheth, and the apple tree: yea, all the trees of the earth because joy is departed from the sons of men: lament and howl you Ministers of the Gospel, and be then so offer up sacrifices acceptable to the Lord. Ah, lets lie in sackcloth, lets fast, lets be a fast, call a solemn assembly, and let all the inhabitants of the earth cry unto the Lord with tears that cannot be numbered, clappe, for the day of the Lord is at hand, and a most swift and sudden destruction will come from the Almighty, our meat is cut off, yea joy and gladness is departed from us, and our seed is rotten under the clods our garners is laid desolate and our barns are empty, and our grain is withered. And ah, how do the beasts groan, our hearts are perplexed and our pastors are dried up, and our flocks of sheep are consumed. O let us look unto him

him that hath wrought great works, to whom
 else ought we to cry for help and succour : O
 Lord therefore, hear our prayers and deal by
 us as it seems good to thy blessed will ; for O
 Lord amongst us there is nothing wrought that
 is good in us, but swearing, and lying, & whor-
 ring, and stealing, and blood touching blood. O
 Lord, of these abominations, give us grace to
 repent. Christian friends, I beseech you to re-
 pent as did Niniveh, that the Lord may repent
 him of his judgements and take away his fierce
 anger from amongst us : for as Jonah entred
 into Nineveh, said within 40 days shall Nine-
 veh be destroyed : but the City of Nineveh be-
 lieved the Lord God by the mouth of his Pro-
 phet, and they proclaimed a Fast from the great-
 est to the least of them : nay, the very King
 put from him his Royal robes, and covered
 himself with sackcloth and ashes : this I say,
 shewed their humility, and how they humbled
 themselves to the service of God, and God did
 repent of the evil and destroyed them not, Jonah
 3.5. O England, England, if thou dost not with
 as free a heart truly repent thee as did this City
 thou canst not possibly stop the wrath of God :
 but alas, our carnal minds are drawn away
 with the bewitching vanities sinful lusts, delu-
 sive temptations of this sinful life. O friends,
 your fasting is feasting, your praying is play-
 ing, being filled with fulness of bread, wanting
 nothing

nothing like to Sodom and Gomorah, but if like to them you must partake of their punishments. O you attenders and hearers of this book, be you not so call'd but be you the doers of the same, and practise it in your lives and conversations. O hearken further what God saith to those that repent. Zech. 10. 1. My mercy shall be above your affliction ; for if you seek the Lord, you shall have rain with the latter rain, and in season shall the weather be, and every one shall have grasse in the fields, and I will have mercy upon you, and you shall be as though I afflicted you not. O Christian Brethren, do, do, do, that repentance & prayer is the greatest thing that God regardeth : I would intreat you all with loving admonition to seek God by prayer ; for Sodom had not the sins as we have : Sodom had not been destroyed had there been but ten righteous, and in another place saith God, find but one acceptable to stand in the gap to stay my wrath, & pacifie my fierce anger from coming more amongst you. Dear Friends, though some goes astray, lets not all perish in our wickedness : pethaps some of you here present God may accept to pacifie his wrath : therefore I pray you seek to please God as you live and reign with him for evermore for you all have seen and known that your doers sins have brought diverse calamities upon us, our haughtiness, our wantonness, our drunkenness

kennels, & unjust dealings hath cruelly brought
 this plague upon us; this foggy winter past
 makes the summer unseasonable to the abound-
 ing of great diseases, except the Lord of his
 gracious clemency, and good providence, doth
 pervert it, great scarcity of grain is likely to be
 through the murmuring of our greedy rich mis-
 sers of the land, who heaps from the poor in a
 most wretched manner: But we have a just
 God that will punish these greedy Caterpillars
 with the wants of their great store which they
 had upon earth, their conscience in hell will be
 griped with scorching fire, they shall burn as
 straw under a furnace, and their hearts will
 burn with serbent heat; and as they kept food
 from the poor upon earth so will the Lord keep
 them from the spiritual food of Heaven; and
 as the poor lay under their Curse, so shall the
 rich man lie under the Curse of Gods wrath so
 evermore, and his delicate fare will be turned
 into odious foods, and griping hunger instead of
 Claret wines, hopyng lead and extreme thirst,
 their musick and noble companions will be the
 hideous crying of frightful devils, his rare attire
 & sumptuous seat is the flames of flashing fire, &
 his bed of down is burning coles of hellish fuel
 and though the miserable pains of poor Lazarus
 on earth had an end, yet the damnable torments
 of the rich glutton in hell hath no end: take
 heed of this you rich men which despise the poor,
 remem-

remember this, 'tis the punishment that is reserved for all such at the last day: All men fear God & truly consider these words, & take warning lest the heavey wrath of God do utterly consume you from the land, & I intreat you to truly trust in God, & he will relieve all your necessities whatsoever, & comfort those that seek to do him wrong, for I Lord's merciful, slow to anger & of great kindness: but to the rich man a word more: I have to say, are you not ashamed to see the poor starve both for hunger and cold, neither will you give them bread nor cloth to cloath them: they may live 7 years in prison with their fetters ere you part from a penny to relieve them: O you hard hearted Jewes, no Christianity is remaining in you: nay, your poor labourers that labours amongst you of his wages you will keep back & hath at home a wife and 8 children perhaps that starves for bread, yet by defraud you thus deceive them: alas at their best estate they are not able to maintaine their charge with the wages you allow them, but you forget the poverty of the poor being pamper'd up with plenty of delicate fare; but alas, for your hypocritie there is a day of account & God will deal by you as you have dealt by others; yea, if one drop of water would serve your turn, it should not be granted you; at in what a strait will you be brought to at this hour, if you were to begin your life anew, how would you carry your selves: O how

cha.

charitable then would you be to merit heaven :
 but take warning to this you are here upon
 earth, for after death there is no remorse :
 and I beg of you for Christs sake to say to heart
 what has been said, & strive to serve the living
 God, & instead of poverty you shall have plenty,
 nay you shall have your daies lengthned as was
 Hezekiah, *Isa* 38. 7. By his prayers and true desire there
 was added to his daies 15 years: But if you refuse to
 labor you must eat the bread of hunger, to labor
 is beautiful both to natural and spiritual life,
 but for a long time we have perverted the waies
 of God, and the waies of truth, but what has
 befall en us for our iniquity. The earth is empty, &
 made waste, yea it is turned upside down, and the In-
 habitants, the children of God are scattered abroad in
 all parts: but alas as it is with the people so with the
 Priest, as with the servant so with the master, as with the
 buyer so with the seller, for the Land shall be destroyed
 and quite confounded, *Isaiah* 24. 3. For the earth mour-
 neth, the world languisheth and fadeth away, yea the
 mighty are weak, and the whole earth is defiled by
 blasphemous cursed words and evil thoughts, confused
 actions. O we have sorely transgressed the laws of God,
 we have changed his ordinances, nay we have broken
 his everlasting covenant, therefore hath the curse devon-
 red the earth, and they that dwell therein are desolate,
Isa. 24. 5, 6. for so I will bring evil upon this people, even
 the fruit of their thoughts, because they have not heark-
 ned to my words.

¶ let us speedily repent with unfeigned hearts
 that the Lord may turn his wrath into mercy,
 his fury into favour, his anger into loving kind-
 nesses; and make our barren land fruitful, turne
 our dearth into cheapness, our sickness into
 health

health, our aduersity to prosperity, for he will be
 to us a God if we will be to him a people. O how
 great and manifold have the sins of this nation
 been, and how greatly hath God manifested his
 love unto us; and how little have we truly ser-
 ved him; we may well say with the Prophet, our
 best righteousness is filthy rags, yea filthy in-
 deed have we been in our clothes and conuersati-
 ons, O bide to amend dear friends before the
 heavy wrath of God sweep you away, yea seek
 the Lord by prayer, for thus saith God, Seek &
 ye shall finde, knock and it shall be opened;
 if we truly seek God he will be found of us, if
 we earnestly knock for mercy, he will have
 mercy on us. And so I do humbly request every
 man in his own house and family to look to his
 own sheep, and walk circumspectly before man,
 humbly beseege God, and have a care of your last
 end, of your departing out of this life, commit-
 ting your soul to God that gave it, and your body
 to the grave there to rest till the general day
 of judgement, with certain hope of a blessed re-
 surrection, and the grace of the most wise God
 the Father, and of our Saviour Jesus Christ,
 with the blessed Spirit the holy Ghost, go along
 with you and guide you all for ever more, Amen.

The God of Heaven your minds convert,

and bless you evermore.

And make you of a tender heart,

and free to the poor:

For meriting of earthly gifts

you'll get a place more high,

To reign in Heaven amongst the clouds
 of heavenly Majesty.

F I N I S.

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